



# Wren Park Primary School

Headteacher: Mr Alex Buckley  
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Gill Pettit

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Dear Parents / Carers,

On behalf of the Wren Park Governing Board, I'd like to welcome all children and staff back to school for the new term. I hope by now everyone is settling back into the rhythm of the school week and the children have adjusted to their new classes. As we approach the first meeting of the school year for the Governing Board, we thought it would be useful to communicate an update of Governor activity, how we support the school, staff and represent you as Parents / Carers of children at the school.

## **Who are we and what do we do?**

The board is a mixture of staff, parent and community governors who meet every half term. During these meetings we conduct some statutory duties, understanding requirements of the school and questioning the leadership team on how policy is implemented. We hold discussions on a range of agenda items and help develop a strategic direction for the school.

As well as the full meetings there are other sub committees which meet termly to discuss areas such as the curriculum, personnel, finance and building issues.

The governors are encouraged to visit school during the day, to get hands on experience, see how things are for the children at school and monitor certain aspects of the school. Individual governors take roles for different curriculum areas such as IT, English and Maths along with areas such as Safeguarding and Personal Development.

There is a wide range of skills and expertise within the Governing Board which helps provide the support and scrutiny required.

## **Governor Day March 2023**

Mr Buckley and the staff welcomed all governors to spend the whole day at school, with a packed timetable of class visits, curriculum discussions, a school council meeting and an excellent lunch laid on by the staff! This was an extremely rewarding day with staff and children alike being very open and honest with us about their Wren Park experiences.

It was a joy to see the way in which the children were all engaged in their learning and to see the staff in action. We hope to make this a fixture in the school calendar along with the individual governor visits.

## **Ofsted**

The governors were all united in our frustration and disagreement with the rating and findings of the recent Ofsted inspection. It is our role as governors though, to act as a check and balance for the

school leadership team and ensure that plans are in place to address issues raised in the priority areas highlighted in that report.

We have been delighted to learn how Mr Buckley and the staff have developed plans in these areas, some of which are highlighted below:

**British Values** – Each class has a display related to the values and the addition of schemes such as Picture News and planned themes for assemblies support the teaching in this area.

**Personal Development** – The Personal Development Overview is ongoing but the school website has been updated with a significant amount of detail. This includes the school's Personal Development Mission and details of the commitment to the 'Excellence in Pupil Development Award'.

**Curriculum Leadership** – Significant review has taken place through workshops at INSET days with a review of long-term curriculum plans. Again, I would direct all parents / carers to the school website for details of those plans and the individual curriculum areas.

### **School Values**

The governors fully support and endorse the new school values that were introduced this half term.

- Respectful
- Ambitious
- Resilient

These will be taught and developed alongside the British Values and will be valuable in giving the children some practical and inspirational aims for themselves. We will certainly support these being embedded as part of the Wren Park ethos.

### **Finally...Are you interested in joining us?!**

We have sadly seen a few of our longer tenured governors step back from duties after several years on the board. In this case we will shortly be communicating some vacancies for new governors. If any of what you have read interests you or you wish to learn more about the role and what it involves, please feel free to contact us via the school and we would be delighted to discuss. Full details will be circulated later this term.

Thanks for reading and we look forward to sending another update soon.

Regards

Kevin Rayner (Parent Governor) on behalf of the Governing Board.